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On April 30, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Jay M. Marshall

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 085761-000510US
Client Ref. No.: AR009US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kazutoshi Okuno, et al.

Application No.: 09/560,780

Filed: April 28, 2000

For: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING
FIELD RESISTANCE OF RICE TO
RICE BLAST

Examiner: A. Kubelik

Art Unit: 1638

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 30, 2003 for the above-identified patent application, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title as follows:

✓ --DNA POLYMORPHISM-BASED METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING
FIELD RESISTANCE OF RICE TO RICE BLAST--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following paragraph on page 1 above the
"BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:"